

U.S. Application Serial No.: 10/627,969
Amendment dated November 21, 2006
In response to Office Action Dated July 25, 2006

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 2;
Amendments to the claims begin on page 3; and
Remarks begin on page 10.
Amendments to the Abstract:

Please delete the Abstract and substitute therefor the following:

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ABSTRACT

A method of operating a fuel cell including an anode, a cathode, a first passage, and a second passage, wherein the anode is disposed in the first passage and the cathode in the second passage including producing a non-explosive gaseous feed consisting of (i) at least one oxidizable component having a greater tendency to undergo oxidation relative to the anode, and (ii) a remainder which is the predominant component in the gaseous feed consisting essentially of water vapor; and introducing the non-explosive gaseous feed to the first passage to form a first gaseous feed stream flowing through the first passage when the anode realizes a temperature effective to facilitate deteriorative oxidation of the anode in the presence of an oxidizing agent. The non-explosive gaseous feed is provided to mitigate or prevent anode oxidation and the formation of potentially explosive gaseous mixtures. --